

SPA

SPA'DLE. *n. f.* [Diminutive of *spade*.] A little spade.
Others destroy moles with a *spaddle*, waiting in the mortu-
ings and evenings for them. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

SPADE. *n. f.* [span, Saxon; *spade*, Islandick and Dutch.]
1. The instrument of digging.
Take the air of the earth new turned up, by digging with
the *spade*, or standing by him that diggeth. *Bacon.*
Many learned men affirm, that some isthmes have been cut
through by the sea, and others cut by the *spade*. *Bacon.*
His next advance was to the soldier's trade,
Where if he did not nimble ply the *spade*,
His furly officer ne'er fail'd to crack
His knotty cudgel on his tougher back. *Dryden.*
Here nature never diff'rence made
Between the sceptre and the *spade*. *Swift.*
2. A deer three years old. *Ainsworth.*
3. A suit of cards.
SPADICEOUS. *adj.* [*spadiceus*, Latin.]
Of those five Scalliger beheld, though one was *spadiceous*, or
of a light red, and two inclining to red, yet was there not
any of this complexion among them. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*

SPADILLE. *n. f.* [*spadille*, or *spadille*, French.] The ace of
spades at ombre.

SPAGYRICK. *adj.* [*spagyricus*, Lat. A word coined by Para-
celsus from *spas*, a sear, Teutonic.] Chymical.

SPAGYRIST. *n. f.* A chymist.
This change is so unexampled, that though among the more
curious *spagyrist* it is very well known, yet many naturalists
cannot easily believe it. *Boyle.*

SPAKE. The old preterite of *speak*.
So *spake* the archangel Michael, then paus'd. *Milton.*

SPALL. *n. f.* [*espaule*, French.] Shoulder. Out of use.
Their mighty strokes their habernions dismay'd,
And naked made each others manly *spalles*. *Fairfax.*

SPALT, or *Spelt*. *n. f.* A white, scaly, shining stone, frequently
used to promote the fusion of metals. *Bailey.*

SPAN. *n. f.* [span, rponne, Saxon; *spanna*, Ital. *span*, Dutch.]
1. The space from the end of the thumb to the end of the little
finger extended.
A foot, the length of it, is a sixth part of the statute; a
span, one eighth; a palm, or hand's breadth, one twenty-fourth;
a thumb's breadth, or inch, one seventy-second; and a fore-
finger's breadth one ninety-sixth. *Holder on Time.*
Will you with counters sum
The vast proportion of his infinite?
And buckle in a waste most fathomless,
With *spans* and inches so diminutive
As fears and reasons? *Shakespeare. Troilus and Cressida.*
Sum how brief the life of man
Runs his erring pilgrimage,
That the stretching of a *span*
Buckles in his sum of age. *Shakespeare.*
When I removed the one, although but at the distance of
a *span*, the other would stand like Hercules's pillar. *Brown.*
2. Any short duration.
You have scarce time
To steal from spiritual leisure a brief *span*,
To keep your earthly audit. *Shakespeare. Henry VIII.*
The virgin's part, the mother and the wife,
So well she acted in this *span* of life. *Waller.*
Then conscience, unrestrain'd by fears, began
To stretch her limits, and extend the *span*. *Dryden.*
Life's but a *span*, I'll ev'ry inch enjoy. *Farquhar.*

TO SPAN. *v. a.*
1. To measure by the hand extended.
Oft on the well-known spot I fix my eyes,
And *span* the distance that between us lies. *Tickell.*
2. To measure.
My surveyor is false; the o'er great cardinal
Hath shew'd him gold; my life is *spann'd* already. *Shakespeare.*
This foul doth *span* the world, and hang content
From either pole unto the centre;
Where in each room of the well-furnish'd tent
He lies warm, and without adventure. *Herbert.*
Harry, whose tuneful and well-measur'd song
First taught our English musick how to *span*
Words with just note and accent, not to scan
With Midas' ears, counting short and long. *Milton.*

SPAN. The preterite of *spin*. See *SPIN*.

SPAN. Together furiously they ran,
That to the ground came horse and man;
The blood out of their helmets *span*,
So sharp were their encounters. *Drayton's Nymphid.*

SPAN-COUNTER. *n. f.* [from *span*, counter and *farthing*.] A
spannfarth. *n. f.* play at which money is thrown within a
span or mark.
Tell the king, that for his father's sake, Henry V. in whose
time boys went to *spancounter* for French crowns, I am content
he shall reign. *Shakespeare's Henry VI.*
Boys shall not play
At *spancounter* or blowpoint, but shall pay
Toll to some courtier. *Donne.*

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His chief solace is to steal down, and play at *spanfarthing*
with the page. *Swift.*

SPANG. *n. f.* [*spange*, Dutch.] This word seems to have sig-
nified a cluster of shining bodies.
The colours that shew best by candlelight are white, carna-
tion, and a kind of sea-water green; and ouches or *spangs*,
as they are of no great cost, so they are of most glory. *Bacon.*

SPANGLE. *n. f.* [*spange*, German, a buckle, a locket; whence
ober spangen, ear-rings.]
1. A small plate or bolt of shining metal.
2. Any thing sparkling and shining.
As hoary frost with *spangles* doth attire
The mossy branches of an oak half dead. *Fairy Queen.*
Thus in a starry night fond children cry
For the rich *spangles* that adorn the sky. *Waller.*
The twinkling *spangles*, the ornaments of the upper world,
lose their beauty and magnificence: vulgar spectators see them
but as a confused huddle of petty illuminants. *Glavill.*
That now the dew with *spangles* deck'd the ground,
A sweeter spot of earth was never found. *Dryden.*

TO SPANGLE. *v. a.* [from the noun.] To besprinkle with
spangles or shining bodies.
They never meet in grove or green,
By fountain clear, or *spangled* starlight sheen. *Shakespeare.*
What stars do *spangle* heaven with such beauty,
As those two eyes become that heavenly face. *Shakespeare.*
Unpin that *spangled* breakfast which you wear,
That th' eyes of busy fools may be slopt there. *Donne.*
Four faces each
Had, like a double Janus, all their shape
Spangled with eyes, more numerous than those
Of Argus. *Milton's Par. Lost.*
Then appear'd
Spangling the hemisphere, then first adorn'd
With the bright luminaries, that set and rose. *Milton.*
The spacious firmament on high,
With all the blue etherial sky,
And *spangl'd* heav'n's, a shining frame,
Their great Original proclaim. *Addison's Spectator.*

SPANIEL. *n. f.* [*bispaniulus*, Latin; *espagneu*, French.]
1. A dog used for sports in the field, remarkable for sagacity and
obedience.
Divers days I followed his steps 'till I found him, having
newly met with an excellent *spaniel* belonging to his dead
companion. *Sidney.*
There are arts to reclaim the wildest men, as there are
to make *spaniels* fetch and carry: chide 'em often, and feed 'em
feldom. *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*
2. A low, mean, sneaking fellow; a courtier; a dedicator; a
pensioner; a dependant; a placeman.
I mean sweet words,
Low crooked curtesies, and base *spaniel* fawning. *Shakespeare.*
I am your *spaniel*; and, Demetrius,
The more you beat me I will fawn on you. *Shakespeare.*

TO SPANIEL. *v. n.* [from the noun.] To fawn on; to play
the *spaniel*.
The hearts
That *spaniel'd* me at heels, to whom I gave
Their wishes, do diffandy and melt their sweets
On blossoming Cæsar. *Shakespeare.*

SPANISH BROOM. *n. f.* [*genista juncea*, Lat.] A plant so called,
as being a native of Spain: it hath plant branches, leaves placed
alternately, flowers of the pea-bloom kind, succeeded by
smooth pods, containing several kidney-shaped seeds in each.
Miller.

SPANISH NUT. *n. f.* [*ssyrinchium*, Latin.] A plant.
It hath a flower resembling the iris, from whence it differs
in having a double root, one lying over another, after the
same manner as those of crocus and gladiolus. *Miller.*

SPANKER. *n. f.* A small coin.
Your cure too costs you but a *spanker*. *Denham.*

SPANNER. *n. f.* The lock of a fusée or carbine.
My prince's court is now full of nothing but buff-coats,
spanners, and musket-rests. *Flavel.*

SPAR. *n. f.*
1. Marcalite.
Spar is a mixed body, consisting of crystal incorporated
sometimes with *læ luna*, and sometimes with other minerals
stony, earthy, or metallic matter. *Woodward.*
Some stones, as *spar* of lead, dissolved in proper men-
struums, become salts. *Newton's Opt.*

2. [*Sparr*, Dutch.] A small beam; the bar of a gate.
TO SPAR. *v. n.* To fight with prelusive strokes.
TO SPAR. *v. a.* [spanyan, Saxon; *sperran*, German.] To
shut; to close; to bar.
And if he chance come when I am abroad,
Sparre the yate fast for fear of fraud;
Ne for all his worth, nor for his best,
Open the door at his request. *Spenser's Poetical.*
Six gates if th' city with mastie staples,
And correspond and fulfilling bolts,
Spar up the fons of Troy. *Shakespeare.*

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Yet for the yode thereat half agast,
And Kiddie the door *sparr'd* after her fast. *Spenser.*

SPARRABLE. *n. f.* [spanyan, Saxon; to fatten.] Small nails.
SPARRADRAP. *n. f.* [In pharmacy.] A cecileath.
With application of the common *sparradrap* for issues, this
ulcer was by a fontanel kept open. *Wise's Anatomy.*

TO SPARE. *v. a.* [spanyan, Saxon; *sparen*, Dutch; *espargue*,
French.]
1. To use frugally; not to waste; not to consume.
Thou thy father's thunder didst not *spar*. *Milton.*
2. To have unemployed; to save from any particular use.
All the time he could *spar* from the necessary cares of his
weighty charge he bestowed on prayer, and serving of God:
he oftentimes spent the night alone in church-praying, his
head-piece, gorget, and gauntlets lying by him. *Rosier.*
He had no bread to *spar*. *W. P. Strange.*
Only the foolish virgins entertained this foolish conceit, that
there might be an overplus of grace sufficient to supply their
want; but the wife knew not of any that they had to *spar*,
but supposed all that they had little enough. *Tillotson.*
Let a pamphlet come in a proper juncture, and every one
who can *spar* a shilling shall be a subscriber. *Swift.*
3. To do without; to lose willingly.
I could have better *sparr'd* a better man. *Shak. Hen. IV.*
For his mind, I do not care,
That's a toy that I could *spar*;
Let his title be but great,
His clothes rich, and band fit neat. *Ben. Johnson.*
Sense of pleasure we may well
Spare out of life perhaps, and not repine;
But pain is perfect misery. *Milton.*
Now the might *spar* the ocean, and oppose
Your conduct to the heretofore of her foes. *Waller.*
The fair blessing we vouchsafe to lend;
Nor can we *spar* you long, tho' often we may lend. *Dryd.*

4. To omit; to forbear.
We might have *sparr'd* our coming. *Milton.*
Be pleas'd your politics to *spar*;
I'm old enough, and can myself take care. *Dryden.*

5. To use tenderly; to forbear; to treat with pity; not to
afflict; not to destroy; to use with mercy.
Spare us, good Lord. *Common Prayer.*
Who will let the discipline of wisdom over mine heart,
That they *spar* me not for my ignorances? *Eccles. xxxiii. 2.*
Doth not each look a flash of lightning feel?
Which *spar*s the body's flesh, but melts the steel. *Cleavel.*
Dim sadness did not *spar*
Celestial villages. *Milton.*
Less pleasure take brave minds in battles won
Than in restoring such as are undone;
Tygers have courage, and the rugged bear;
But man alone can whom he conquers *spar*. *Waller.*
Spare me one hour! O *spar* me but a moment. *Greene.*

6. To grant; to allow; to indulge.
Set me in the remotest place,
That Neptune's frozen arms embrace;
Where angry Jove did never *spar*
One breath of kind and temperate air. *Reverend.*

7. To forbear to inflict or impose.
Spare my remembrance; 'twas a guilty day;
And still the blush hangs here. *Dryd. All for Love.*
O *spar* this great, this good, this aged king,
And *spar* your foul the crime! *Dryden's Spanish Fryar.*
Spare my light the pain
Of seeing what a world of tears it costs you. *Dryden.*

TO SPARE. *v. n.*
1. To live frugally; to be parsimonious; to be not liberal.
H' has wherewithal: in him
Sparing would show a worse sin than ill doctrine. *Shakespeare.*
Those wants, which they rather feared than felt, would
well enough be overcome by *sparing* and patience. *Kneller.*
Our labours late and early every morning,
Midst Winter frosts, then clad and fed with *sparing*,
Rise to our toils. *Osway.*
God has not been so *sparing* to men to make them barely
two-legged creatures, and left it to Aristotle to make them
rational. *Locke.*
When they discover the passionate desire of fame in the am-
bitious man, they become *sparing* and saving in their com-
mendations; they envy him the satisfaction of an applause. *Addison.*
Now a reservoir to keep and *spar*,
The next a fountain spouting through his heir. *Pope.*
No statue in his favour stays
How free or frugal I shall pass my days;
Who at some times spend, at others *spar*,
Divided between carelessness and care. *Pope.*

2. To forbear; to be scrupulous.
His soldiers *sparr'd* not to say that they should be unkindly
dealt with, if they were defrauded of the spoil. *Kneller.*
In these relations, although he be more *sparing*, his prede-
cessors were very numerous. *Brown's Vulgar Errors.*
To pluck and eat my fill I *spar'd* not. *Milton.*

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3. To use mercy; to forgive; to be tender.
Their king, out of a princely feeling, was *sparing* and com-
passionate towards his subjects. *Bacon.*

SPARE. *adj.*
1. Scanty; not abundant; parsimonious.
He was *spare*, but discreet of speech; better conceiving than
delivering; equally stout and kind. *Carew's Surv. of Cornwall.*
Men ought to beware, that they use not exercise and a *spare*
diet both. *Bacon's Natural History.*
Join with thee calm peace and quiet;
Spare a fast, that oft with gods doth diet. *Milton.*
The matters of the world were bred up with *spare* diet;
and the young gentlemen of Rome felt no want of strength,
because they ate but once a day. *Locke.*
2. Superfluous; unwanted.
If that no *spar* e clothes he had to give,
His own coat he would cut, and it distribute glad. *F. 2.*
As any of our clock waxed well, he might be removed; for
which purpose there were set forth ten *spar* e chambers. *Bacon.*
Learning seems more adapted to the female world than to
the male, because they have more *spar* e time upon their hands;
and lead a more sedentary life. *Addison's Spectator.*
In my *spar* e hours you've had your part;
Ev'n now my servile hand your sovereign will obeys. *Norr.*

3. Lean; wanting flesh; macilent.
O give me your *spar* e men, and spare me the great ones. *Sh.*
If my name were liable to fear,
I do not know the man I should avoid
So soon as that *spar* e Cassius. *Shakespeare. Julius Caesar.*
His visage drawn he felt to sharp and *spar* e,
His arms clung to his ribs. *Milton's Parod. Lost.*

SPARE. *n. f.* [from the verb.] Parsimony; frugal use; husbandry.
Not in use.
Our victuals failed us, though we had made good *spar* e of
them. *Bacon.*

SPARRER. *n. f.* [from *spar*.] One who avoids expence.
By nature far from profusions, and yet a greater *sparer* than
a savor; for though he had such means to accumulate, yet his
forts, garrisons, and his sealings, wherein he was only sumptu-
ous, could not but soak his exchequer. *Watson.*

SPARRER. *n. f.* [*spar* and *rib*.] Some part cut off from the
ribs; as, a *sparer* of pork.

SPARGEMENT. *n. f.* [*spargo*, Lat.] The act of sprinkling.

SPARRING. *adj.* [from *spar*.]
1. Scarce; little.
Of this there is with you *sparing* memory or none; but we
have large knowledge thereof. *Bacon.*
2. Scanty; not plentiful.
If much exercise, then use a plentiful diet; and if *sparing*
diet, then little exercise. *Bacon.*
Good air, solitary groves, and *sparing* diet, sufficient to
make you fancy yourself one of the fathers of the desert. *Pope.*

3. Parsimonious; not liberal.
Virgil being so very *sparing* of his words, and leaving so
much to be imagined by the reader, can never be translated as
he ought in any modern tongue. *Dryden.*
I though *sparing* of his grace, to mischief bent,
He seldom does a good with good intent. *Dryden.*

SPARRINGLY. *adv.* [from *sparing*.]
1. Not abundantly.
Give us leave freely to render what we have in charge;
Or shall we *sparingly* shew you far off
The dauphin's meaning? *Shakespeare. Henry V.*
The borders whereon you plant fruit-trees should be large,
and set with fine flowers; but thin and *sparingly*, lest they de-
ceive the trees. *Bacon's Essays.*

2. Frugally; parsimoniously; not lavishly.
Speech of touch towards others should be *sparingly* used;
for discourse ought to be as a field, without coming home to
any man. *Bacon's Essays.*
High titles of honour were in the king's minority *sparingly*
granted, because dignity then waited on desert. *Hayward.*
Commend but *sparingly* whom thou do'st love;
But less condemn whom thou do'st not approve. *Denham.*
The morality of a grave sentence, affected by Lucan, is
more *sparingly* used by Virgil. *Dryden.*

3. With abstinence.
Christians are obliged to taste even the innocent pleasures of
life but *sparingly*. *Autenbury.*

4. Not with great frequency.
Our sacraments, which had been frequented with so much
zeal, were approached more *sparingly*. *Attorney's Serment.*

5. Cautiously; tenderly.

SPARK. *n. f.* [spanyan, Saxon; *sparks*, Dutch.]
1. A small particle of fire, or kindled matter.
If any marvel how a thing, in itself so weak, could import
any great danger, they must consider not so much how small
the *spark* is that sleeth up, as how apt things about it are to take
fire. *Hooker.*
I am about to weep; but thinking that
We are a queen, my drops of tears I'll turn
To sparks of fire. *Shakespeare.*
I was